

MONTHLY NOTICES

OF THE

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY.

VOL. LVII.

JANUARY 8, 1897.

No. 3

A. A. COMMON, LL.D., F.R.S., President, in the Chair.

William Johnston, Saint Nicholas House, Westgate Street,
Gloucester ;

George Edward Lumsden, Assistant Secretary of the Province
of Ontario, 57 Elm Avenue, Toronto, Canada ;

Major Percy Alexander MacMahon, R.E., F.R.S., Artillery
College, Woolwich, and 52 Shaftesbury Avenue, W. ;

Louis C. H. Maston, San Francisco, California, U.S.A. ;

Beauchamp Prideaux Selby, J.P., Pawston, Cornhill-on-
Tweed, Northumberland ;

J. E. de Villiers, Government Surveyor, Cape Town, South
Africa ; and

John Watson, Norman Villa, Glossop Road, Sheffield,

were balloted for and duly elected Fellows of the Society.

The following Candidate was proposed for election as a Fellow
of the Society, the name of the proposer from personal knowledge
being appended :—

John Harold Herbert, Civil Engineer, Mapperley Road, Not-
tingham (proposed by A. A. Common).

Eighty presents were announced as having been received
since the last meeting, including, amongst others :—

J. C. Clancey, Aid to land-surveying (two editions) ; Calculat-
ing Tables ; Examination questions in surveying, presented by

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the Author ; Galileo, Opere, Edizione nazionale, vol. vi., presented by the Italian Government ; *Nautical Almanac* for 1900, and ditto, Part I., presented by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty ; S. Newcomb, The Mass of *Jupiter* and the Orbit of *Polyhymnia* (American *Nautical Almanac* papers, vol. v. part 5), presented by the American *Nautical Almanac* Office ; *Washington Observations*, 1890, Appendix I. ; Catalogue of 16,748 southern stars, deduced from observations made by Lieut. Gilliss, presented by the Observatory ; Positive and negative reproductions of a photograph of Nebula M 8 *Sagittarii*, presented by K. D. Naegamvala ; Photograph of the partial phase of the solar eclipse 1896 August 9, taken at Vadsö, presented by Joseph Lunt.

ALTERATION OF BYE-LAWS.

At the Special General Meeting held after the Ordinary Meeting, the following alteration of Bye-laws was unanimously carried :—

That Bye-laws 69 to 74 be altered by the addition of the word “ gold ” before the word “ medal.”

The reasons for, and effect of, this alteration are detailed in *Monthly Notices*, vol. lvii. pp. 35–39.

The Bye-laws in question now stand as follows :—

SECTION XVI.—Of Awarding the Gold Medal.

69. No more than one gold medal shall be awarded or given during the course of any one year.

70. At the regular meeting of the Council, in the month of November in every year, the Council shall (prior to any other business) take into their consideration the propriety and expediency of awarding such gold medal ; and the name of every person who may be proposed and seconded as deserving the same shall be entered in the Minute-book.

71. Whenever more than one person shall have been proposed, the Council shall, at their regular meeting in December, select one of the persons so proposed to be submitted to the Council in January following on the question whether he shall or shall not receive the gold medal.

72. At the regular meeting of the Council in January following, the Council shall decide whether the nominee then before the Council shall or shall not receive the gold medal.

73. No gold medal shall be awarded in any other way than in the manner and at the time above prescribed ; nor unless three-fourths at least of the Members of the Council present shall agree thereto.

74. Notwithstanding the preceding Bye-laws, in cases where two or more persons have been jointly concerned in the produc-